

HOWNIIKAN

PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

Vol. 20, No. 10

Citizen Potawatomi Nation

October 1998

U.S. Supreme Court ends Shawnee case, tribe wins



Before the headquarters of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation was moved into this beautiful building, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe headquarters was literally next door.

By Michael Minnis, Tribal Attorney

"Certiorari is denied." With these words the United States Supreme Court ended five years of litigation and turned back the last challenge to the most significant legal decision in recent Potawatomi history, rejecting a claim that the Potawatomi Reservation is "shared" with the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

Since 1870, when the Potawatomi purchased their reservation in Oklahoma under their 1867 Treaty reserving the land to their "exclusive use and occupancy," the federal bureaucracy has violated the treaty terms by pursuing a policy that the Potawatomi Reservation is held "in common" by the Potawatomi with some members of the Shawnee Tribe who wandered away from their Kansas reservation to eventually squat on the Potawatomi lands.

The suit arose when the Bureau of Indian Affairs refused to follow its own rules when taking land into trust within the "former reservation" of the Potawatomi. Federal regulations provide that land located within an Indian reservation may be taken into trust only when the tribe having jurisdiction over the reservation "consents in writing to the acquisition."

In Oklahoma, "Indian reservation means that area of land constituting the former reservation of the tribe as defined by the Secretary." The Potawatomi have a former reservation in Oklahoma. The Absentee Shawnee do not.

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Capps brings experience, talents to tribe on full-time basis

By Michael Dodson

For the past dozen years, Linda Capps, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Vice Chairman, has devoted her professional career to assisting small businesses in Pottawatomie and surrounding counties. As Government Bid Assistance Coordinator, Capps has been an instrumental part of Gordon Cooper Technology Center's major role in the area's

economic development efforts.

Now, Capps has ended that phase of her career to direct her efforts to the continued growth of her tribe. Effective on Monday, November 9, Capps began her duties as full-time Vice Chairman of the tribal government.

Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett, welcomed Capps to the full-time operations of the tribe and explained: "The volume of tribal business and functions of

tribal administration grew by over 200% in the last three years. Our need for expertise and experience was urgent. We are so very grateful that Linda decided to come to the tribe with her knowledge and talents - we could have found no better resource for continuing our progress.

As Bid Assistance Center Coordinator, Capps helped businesses find, qualify for, and obtain government contracts to

provide a wide array of services and products. "It was very satisfying to help these small businesses stabilize and grow," Capps said. "However, the time for a new challenge had arrived. I'm very pleased to be able to use what I have



learned to help the Potawatomi Nation move to the next level of economic growth."

Before assuming responsibility for the Gordon Cooper Bid Assistance Center, Capps was a Basic Education Instructor at the vocational-technical school. In that position, she helped prepare Native American adults to enter the job market in

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TRIBAL TRACTS

Walking on ...

Raymond L. Melot

Raymond L. Melot, 85, of Shawnee died Saturday, October 17, 1998, in Sherman, Texas. Services were held October 21 at Cooper Funeral Chapel, Tecumseh. Officiating was Rev. William H. Bentley. Burial was in Tecumseh Cemetery.

Mr. Melot was born May 18, 1913, in Wanette to Vernon and Mary (Tinney) Melot. He attended Wanette Schools and was a 1933 graduate of Tecumseh High School. He earned his associate's degree from Bacone Junior College in Muskogee. He then attended the University of Oklahoma for two years.

On April 20, 1939, he married Synia Wynne in Anadarko. She preceded him in death on December 12, 1961. He then married Evelyn Jay on September 6, 1980 in VanAlstyne, Texas.

He had resided in the Shawnee-Tecumseh area for many years and had also lived in VanAlstyne, Texas. He worked for the Department of Welfare in Anadarko for 2 years before working 33 years as a placement counselor at the Oklahoma State Employment Services. He retired in 1975 after 35 years with the State of Oklahoma.

An active and avid baseball fan, he had earlier in his life played in semi-professional leagues in Oklahoma. He enjoyed carpentry, crossword puzzles and was a storyteller. He was a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Tecumseh High School Alumni Association and Draper Street Methodist Church. He also spent many years as a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, after becoming a sponsor and speaker with the organization.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn Melot of the home; one son and daughter-in-law, Hilton

L. and Romona Melot of Tecumseh; two daughters and one son-in-law, Mary Clarice Melot of Shawnee and Mickey and Charles Hunsucker of Richardson, Texas; six grandchildren, John Bryant, Brent Bryant, Rhonda (Bryant) Belcher, Leslie (Hunsucker) Pollock, Jason W. Melot and Amy (Hunsucker) Prasad; two great-grandchildren, Madalynne Nichole Melot and Samuel B. Belcher; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Alva and Betty Melot and Glenn and Dolores Melot, all of Tecumseh; numerous nieces and nephews.

The family has designated the Raymond L. Melot Citizen Potawatomi Nation Scholarship Fund, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 749801 as appropriate for memorials.

Lavina Adeline Barnes Anderson

Lavina Adeline "Addie" Barnes Anderson died Tuesday in a local hospital. She was 91.

She was born Oct. 1, 1907, in Asher to John William and Lavina Laura (Muller) Barnes. She attended Asher Schools. She married Charles Emmet Anderson in Asher on July 1, 1930, and was a homemaker. She was a member of Calvary Baptist Church and had lived in Shawnee most of her life.

Preceding her in death were her parents, five brothers, four sisters, and one grandson. Surviving are her daughters and sons-in-law, Charles and Junea Anderson, Colusa, Calif.; Don and Kay Anderson, Shawnee; Jim and Deanna Anderson, San Pablo, Calif.; Orville and Linda Anderson, Vacaville, Calif.; sisters, Helen Atkinson, Lake Oswego, Ore.; Karleta Brownfield, Oakland, Calif.; brother and sister-in-law, John and Pauline Barnes, Guthrie; 14 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and many other relatives.

Graveside service was held at 11 a.m. Saturday, October 24, 1998, at Tecumseh Cemetery under the direction of Roesch-Walker Funeral Chapel. The Rev. W.F. Crow officiated.

Kathern Helen Smith

Kathern Helen Smith, 59, Canadian, died Thursday, October 22, 1998, in a Midwest City (Oklahoma) hospital.

She was born June 24, 1939, in Shawnee, Oklahoma, to Herman and Vinnie (Fullbright) McWaters. She married Jim Smith. She was a nurse, a member of Liberty Baptist Church, and lived in Shawnee for a number of years.

She is survived by her husband; sons and daughters-in-law, Paul and Paula Smith, Las Vegas, Nev., and the Rev. Clint and April Sinclair, Beggs; mother Vinnie Fullbright, Tecumseh; brother and sister-in-law, Henry and Liz McWaters, Sanford, N.C.; sisters Mattie Welch, Irving, Texas, and Ruth Johnston, Bluffton, S.C.; sister and brother-in-law, Vernice and Ray Warden, McKinney, Texas; six grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her father and son, Danny Hedrick.

Services were held at 2 p.m. Monday, Oct. 26, 1998, at the Resthaven Funeral Chapel, with Rev. Bill Matthews and the Rev. Phil Thompson officiating. Burial was at Tecumseh Cemetery.

Fall scholarships announced

The following students were awarded Tribal Scholarships for the Fall semester:

Michele R. Schmidt
Sharon S. Tate
Connie L. Kay
Lorrie A. Rayburn
Betty L. Crawford
Rhonda J. Honeycutt
Joanna G. Howard
Steven R. Liles
Naomi A. Polansky
Amy L. Birch
Whitson K. Martin
Kimberly M. Blue
Chad D. Barrett
James M. Wilson
Ryan P. McMillan
Billy D. Teague
Joanna M. Diaz
Heather N. Spurlock
Kelly E. Garrison
Claire E. Whitenack
David W. Conway
Allison N. Barrett
Rachel E. Watson
Melissa G. Bomhoff
Brian W. Hancock
Kyle A. Kreeger
Richard M. Robertson
Jessica Lantagne
Tracey L. Cheatham
Sydney R. Flowers
Koby S. Fleck
Brandy L. Hagood
Shauna J. Springer
Brandon H. Beene
Brandon W. Talkmitt
Joseph L. Leyendecker
Jessica M. Martin
Leah M. Hale
Eric Hamilton
Kena Burch
Paige Hill
Keli Savory
Bryan A. Fuller
Dawna M. Osburn
Madonna E. Heer
Tiffany A. Bruning
Charles D. Dunigan
Thomas E. Malone
Randal C. Wesselhoff
Cathy D. Manning
Kelly A. Martin
Brian S. Overstreet
Colby E. Whitenack
Tracy J. Downing
Deborah M. Anderson
Richard D. Fletcher
Tammy M. Barrett
Ryan P. Dockry
Robert L. Sherfeld
Toni M. Jack
Angela Y. Cox
Elizabeth D. Norman
Rachel M. McCarty
Kelly M. Blue
Jon M. Arrasmith
Cais S. Simmons
Gina Womack
Melissa A. Riley
Adrian K. Sanders
Larry D. Holeman
Eric John McMillan
Toni J. Kay
Jami L. Kay
Richard Pawpa

Rose State College
Oklahoma Baptist University
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
Pittsburg State University
Bethel College
Pasadena City College
University of Oklahoma
Mesa Community College
Northeastern Oklahoma A & M
Kwantlen University College
University of Texas at Austin
Collin County Community College
Seminole State College
Mid-American Bible College
Garden City Community College
Oklahoma City Community College
University of Puerto Rico
SW College of Christian Ministries
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Oregon
Seminole State College
Seminole State College
Baylor University
Redlands Community College
University of Kansas
Seminole State College
Sierra College
University of Oklahoma
Collin County Community College
Sterling College
Northern Oklahoma College
Murray State College
University of Central Oklahoma
Cameron University
South Plains College
Oklahoma Baptist University
University of Notre Dame
Oklahoma State University
Metropolitan State College of Denver
Rose State College
University of Central Oklahoma
Western Oklahoma State College
University of Oklahoma
Meridian Community College
Labon Dance Theatre
Angelo State University
University of Oklahoma
Fort Lewis College
Purdue University-Calumet
Oklahoma State University
University of Notre Dame
Oklahoma Baptist University
University of Oregon
Regent University
Bastry University
Texas A & M
Southeast Community College
Madison Area Technical College
Ivy Tech State College
Pontotoc Technology Center
Metro Area Vo-Tech
Court Reporting Institute of Dallas
New Horizons Regional Ed. Center
Texas A & M University
Seminole State College
Oklahoma State University
Brookhaven College
Redland Community College
St. Gregory's University
Emily Griffith Opportunity School
Kansas State University
University of Oklahoma
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College
University of Central Oklahoma

HOW-NI-KAN PEOPLE OF THE FIRE

The HowNiKan is published by the Business Committee of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation with offices at 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

The HowNiKan is mailed free to enrolled tribal members. Subscriptions to non-members are available for \$10 annually in the United States and \$12 for foreign countries.

The HowNiKan is a member of the Native American Journalists Association. Reprint permission is granted with publication credit to the HowNiKan and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

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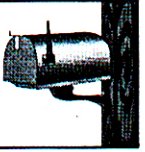
All correspondence should be directed to HowNiKan, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801. Address changes should be sent to Potawatomi Tribal Rolls, 1601 Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801.

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Vice Chairman - Linda Capps
Sec./Treasurer - Gene Bruno
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Committeeman - Jerry P. Motley

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<http://www.potawatomi.org>

TRIBAL TRACTS

From Our Mailbox



California Potawatomi relates story of family circle

Dear How Ni Kan and my Potawatomi Cousins,

I wish to tell the story of the circle between the Cahuilla people here of Southern California, and the French Potawatomes, of which I am the French side of the Navarre Potawatomes.

For a long time I had searched and prayed to find my Native American cousins. The Navarre genealogy society based in Fort Myers Fla. was aware of such, but no personal contact had ever been made. Our Navarre family is based in Monroe, Michigan, where my great-great-great-uncle Pierre Frechette was born, before going to the South Bend area to meet and marry Keshewahquay, the daughter of a Potawatomi Chief.

Pierre, to my mind, is most remembered for this retort: Upon being asked to return to the safety of eastern Michigan, at the removal of the Potawatomes, out of the St. Joseph River basin in western Michigan and Indiana: "De quoi bon faire? Je ne suis qu'un sauvage." ("What good would it do? I'll never be anything but an Indian.")

Three years ago an enthusiastic friend, an artist, insist I go check out the beadwork of a

lady at a very homespun, countrified pow wow nearby, at Morongo. Morongo is the home of the Malki Museum, the first native museum established in California, also publisher of groundbreaking ethnobotany, cultural, and geographic books. I told the bead artist, Tracy Medicine Wolf, that I was a Navarre and I was looking for my Navarre Potawatomi relatives. She put me in touch with Keith Navarre in El Paso.

Some years ago I had been taught of the Cahuilla culture by an Elder named Fred Magee. He became an adopted "Grandpa" for my daughter Marie Claire. Also a veteran of WW II, he passed away and is buried at Pechanga. Pechanga, Pala, Morongo, San Manuel, these are all somewhat controversial names currently in the pre-election, Proposition 5 debate of So. California. It seems the "Indian Self-Reliance" issue is teetering on technical definitions of video slots and employee benefits.

At Fred's passing, I was hungrier than ever for contact with native culture. I became friends with his daughter; and was overjoyed to have contact with my "third cousin once removed" Keith Navarre. We corresponded frequently. I

learned a lot from reading the HowNiKan. I was able to attend the Southern California regional meeting last winter at the Southwest Museum in Pasadena. I felt much alliance there, swimming in a feeling of friendship.

But it was when I went to the Tippecanoe River, at Rochester, Indiana, for the annual Trail of Courage Living History Festival, last year, that I most felt the circle of which I am part. I met Gladys Immenschue, Mary Carr, and many Navarre cousins. It was a highlight of my life. I met Bobbie Bear, White Eagle and other Native American teachers. I became "family" too, with the Winchesters, Pokagons of Dowagiac, Michigan.

Through the HowNiKan, I came to know of Inspiring Potawatomi artists, like Denny Haskew and Barbara Potter, and the award-winning cuisine artist who promotes native foods. This year I was invited to teach performance workshops for children at the Indiana festival: Creative Movement and the Potawatomi Creation Story. I met the Pearl family, and the Campbells, all about to go off on the trail to mark sites where the people had stopped – and the weak buried – enroute

to Kansas.

Ginger Pearl asked me for a gift, a token, from the Navarres at the festival for the Navarre Marker to be dedicated on the 30th of September. What I had to offer was white sage, a sacred healing plant from the Cahuilla Nation's Santa Rosa mountains (my "backyard" as the crow flies). Years before Fred Magee had taught me of

its use to purify the air, and the lungs; I sent it along with the Willards to give to Ginger to offer at the Navarre memorial for the Trail of Tears.

This is my story of a circle. Thank you for listening, and for filling me with news and culture of the Potawatomes, Hurons and others..

Very truly yours,

Rebecca Navarre

Thanks for new regional council

Dear Rocky Barrett,

Thank you for giving those of us (Citizen Potawatomi tribal members) who live in the east an opportunity to attend a Potawatomi Council Meeting. Please, continue.

Next year, I hope you will consider a location in the true Northeast. If I can be of any help, please call on me.

I met a second cousin, whom I had never met before, at the

meeting (on September 19 in Alexandria, Virginia). So, it has a special significance for me.

I look forward to meeting you and your staff again next summer at the Pow Wow. Until then, continued success with all matters Potawatomi and you can be assured that I will register Potawatomi for the upcoming census.

William J. (Bill) Pearce
Rochester, NY 14607

And thanks for the scholarship

Dear Citizen Potawatomi Nation,

I am writing to thank you for the scholarship. It is so nice to receive extra funds. I am really enjoying the University of

Oklahoma. It seems to be a quality education. My teachers are good and my classes are small. I appreciate all the financial help. Thank you again.

Odessa Robinson

Graves desecrated in historic Louis Vieux Cemetery

(Louisville, KS) — Vandals desecrated 24 of about 30 tombstones in the historic Louis Vieux Cemetery on the old Oregon Trail, according to a Pottawatomie County (KS) Sheriff's Department investigator.

Detective Gerald Schmidt said the vandalism was reported Sept. 26. He said tombstones were uprooted and smashed and a visitor registration book was set on fire. "This was just vicious vandalism – no rhyme or reason," Schmidt said. "This is the worst I've ever seen in my 20 years."

Schmidt said several beer cans were scattered about the cemetery, suggesting the crime was alcohol-related. He said it appeared there had been a small party in the cemetery. The sheriff's department has no suspects at this time. The historic cemetery was established in the 1800s, and, Schmidt said several of the stones destroyed were about 150 years old. It is named for Louis Vieux, who operated a ferry service and general store used by the Oregon Trail travelers. Vieux and many of his descendants are buried there.

"There's no way to put a dollar value on it; those markers have been there forever and ever," Schmidt said. "This is a landmark in Pottawatomie County." The Pottawatomie Noxious Weed Department is responsible for maintaining the cemetery. When

stones broke in the past, department maintenance workers were able to repair them. But Rodney Biesenthal, weed department director, said that may not be possible this time.

"The stones were old and brittle. It's almost like sand, they broke into so many pieces," he said. "Every other time, we've been able to put them back together. That's not going happen this time." This isn't the first incident of vandalism in the area. In 1997, the nearby historic Louis Vieux elm tree – designated the largest elm in the country in 1979 and estimated to be more than 280 years old – was nearly destroyed with a pipe bomb. Shortly after the bombing, what remained of the tree was set on fire in three separate incidents the same year.

Schmidt said a cemetery in the northern part of the county also was vandalized about five years ago. But that case was nothing like this, he said. "It's supposed to be a place to rest in peace, but kids go in there and drink beer and destroy it," Schmidt said.

The Pottawatomie County Parks Department is trying to locate descendants of Louis Vieux about repairing or replacing the vandalized tombstones. Please contact Rodney Biesenthal at (785)457-2888 or write the Pottawatomie County Noxious Weed Dept., 405 E. Campbell, Westmoreland, KS 66549. Names, phone numbers and address would be greatly appreciated.

More thank yous

Mary,

I just received my scholarship check. I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the Scholarship Committee. Thank you so much for taking my appeal into consideration. Every year you have made my financial burden a little easier to bare. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and look forward to the time I can give back to the Potawatomi Nation.

Kelly Blue

Dear Scholarship Committee,

I want to thank you for awarding me the tribal scholarship. I appreciate it very much. It has helped me more than you could know. Ms. Farrell, please convey my thanks to all of the members of the committee, and whomever else was involved in making the decision.

Kelly E. Garrison



WELCOME, NEW CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION ENROLLEES!

Due to an oversight the following members enrolled under previous guidelines were not mentioned in the How Ni Kan :

Lisa Dawn Hughes Looney
Lindy Lucian Sasser
Vernon Lee Roberts
John Patrick Cunnison
Jon Louis Boisclair
Samuel Eugene Pierce
Earl Frank Derryberry
Phyllis Griffin
Toni Renee Crumbo Kelly
Tena Lou Lynn Varney
Elva Jane Flowers Moore

Due to an oversight the following members enrolled by descendency were not mentioned in the How Ni Kan :

John Adams Barrett III
Taylor Attocknie Sloan
Meghan Ohiyah Sloan
Gabriela Mercedes Vaillant Wilson
Thomas Wayne Griffin
Wyatt Remington Carter
Curtis Leigh Pine
Dakota Ray Berry
Mia Sheyenne Bruno
Owen Lucas Aidan Mitchell
Rhandon Aaron Yates Mitchell
Henry Harrison Chvatal
Dalton Glen Manning
Curtis Henry Ballard
Harry Alexander Ballard

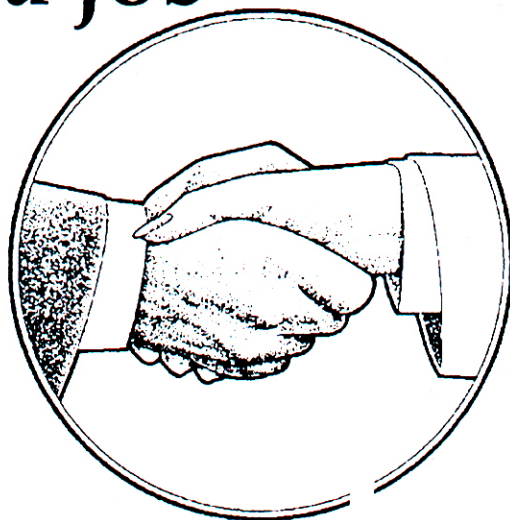
Robert Leroy Richerson III
Amanda Michelle Richerson
Rachel Annette Mullinax Leach
Timothy Scott Harridge
Austin Joel Simonson
Logan Philip Gordon Simonson
Magdalena Cosett Hignojo
Timothy Mark Archer
Kelly Michael Archer
Scott Michael Archer
Cheyenne Ray Cheatwood
Shaylee Nicole Ellson
Justin Alan Ayers
Charlene Elaine Whitworth
Cassandra Ann Vance
Erika Sue Vance
Alyssa Marie Vance
Matthew Ryan Bruno
TiOnna Rachelle Bruno
Melissa Ann Griffin Greer
Audrey Anne Quest
Jillian Parker Beavers
Craig Andrew Ott
Zachary Ryan Miller
Anna Mat Grant
Makenzie Lynn Everett
Adam Benjamin Cronk
Erin Anne O'Connor
Michael Paul Myers
Austin Michael Matter
Michael Ray Boston
Chelsea Paige Layman
Sarah Elizabeth Pringle
Donnie Ray Hillhouse
Jesse Bourbonnais Simons
Brent Edward Yeager Jr.
Makayla Marie Smith
Jeffrey Lee Campbell

Brandi Nicole Campbell
Wade Lee Padgett
Tiffany Nicole Padgett
Woodrow Rexford Carter Jr.
Pattie Lynn Harper
Charles Wayne Harper Jr.
Felicity Ann Miller
Sara Nicole Wilsie
Stephen Garrett Bailey
William James Russel
Cheatwood
Nicholas Glen Martin
Vance Arlan McPhearson
Christopher Arlan McPhearson
Douglas Harden Anderson
Sarah Brett Marie Mahana
Kelly Duane Mahana Jr.
Jennifer Diane Frakes
Timothy Wayne Frakes
Allison Beth Frakes
Steven David Smith
Paula Lynn Weidemann
Jeffrey Alan Weidemann
Matthew Glenn Weidemann
Kathryn Lynn Sasser McCoy
Jimmy Todd McCoy, Jr.
Brenda Kay Sasser Whitley
Tyler Dean Whitley
Lindy Lucian Sasser Jr.
Tammie Jolene Sasser Helton
Michael Lane Hall
Linda Renea Sasser
Crystal Madeline Kime
Sarah Marie Schmitt
Naomi Ann Schmitt
Jeremey Ray Maker
Dru Clayton Kinslow
Destry Duke Christensen

Johnny Lewis Wilson
Brenda Lynn Bibb
Jack Morris Mason
Max Morris Mason
Jimmy Hunter Peters Jr.
Michelle Diane Shier
Shyla Marie Belmont
Mickey Gene Mielneczek
Kahlee LaDrena Hobson-Sims
Joshua Vern Slavin
Jessica Leann Marler
Jessica Deanne Hightower
Dean Alan Hightower
Joel Coy Wood
Justus Dillan Wood
Gage Martin Rush
Jimi LeAnne Lowe
Cerissa Lynn Macon
Madeline Jade Bacon
Joseph Eugene Hull
Erika Marie Foster
William Wesley Foster
Jacob Ryan Nocktonick
Alisyn Bailey Martin
Kristina Lynn Michelle Corbin
Christopher Michael Bryan Corbin
Donald Henry Brown
Douglas Lawrence Brown
Jennifer Dawn Brown
Hailey Kay Hendry
Ethan James Huff
Tyge Damien Bonewell
Briana Nicole Rhodes
Kira Chenoa Lisle
Valerye Raye Barnett
Kevyn James Richard Barnett
Cassondra Danielle Cook
Jonas Deacon Cook

Kelly Shawn Thompson
Cheyenne Dakota Ellen Whipkey
Julia Maxine Marie Finch
Marisa Nicole Shapel
Amy Lynn Varney
Donald Ray Tinney
Chandler James Tinney
Jordon Elizabeth Lisle
Brandon Raymond Morra
Marty Floyd Cole
Russell Martin Cole
William Ryan Cole
Travis Trae Nunnally
Bryana Charise Roach
Brooklyn Jill Earlene Bibb
Tiffany Rose Kime
Jerry David Thomas
Tera Nicole Thomas
Ted Warren Cagle
Richard Brian Cagle
Waylon Jerry Peltier
Shaun Philip Shapel
Jesse Leroy Shapel
Jeremy David Shapel
Dustin Lane Spencer
Megan Elizabeth Whisenant
Devin John Abney
Drew Michael Abney
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Community leader oversees tribal store improvements

By Michael Dodson

Improvements began at the Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Store in the spring of 1998 with replacement of the old, below-ground gasoline tanks with above-ground tanks housed in an attractive new structure. And, the upgrade of the store, at South Gordon Cooper Drive and Hardesty Road in Shawnee continues.

The man overseeing these projects is Terry O'Rorke, Tribal Store manager for the past six months. O'Rorke is a Shawnee-Tecumseh native, having graduated from Shawnee High School in 1976. He has been a Tecumseh resident for the past twenty years.

When Potawatomi Nation leaders hired O'Rorke, they obtained access to a decade of experience in the retail grocery business and more than two decades of retailing knowledge. O'Rorke left a position managing a chain grocery store in Tecumseh to join the Potawatomi Nation.

"I felt like it was a time in my life for a new challenge," O'Rorke said. "It's been a great opportunity for me. It's great to be a part of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and I'm real excited. Everything that happens within the Nation is positive.

"One thing that excited me

about coming to work for the Potawatomi Nation is that, with the obvious emphasis on earning a profit, the leaders also stressed community involvement."

Thousands of people visit the Potawatomi Tribal Store. For many, that is their only contact with the Nation. "This large traffic flow gives me an opportunity to talk to people about the Nation, what a great benefit it is to Pottawatomie County. It's amazing the things the Nation does for our community that the people don't realize," O'Rorke said.

In a recently completed remodeling of the Potawatomi Tribal Store, the sale of cigarettes by-the-carton and of other tobacco products has been segregated from the remainder of the store.

The decision to make this change was made with an eye on federal legislation that would have required stores to prevent minors from having self-service access to tobacco products. That requirement did not become law because Congress scuttled the tobacco legislation earlier this year.

Despite that, O'Rorke and Potawatomi leaders decided to proceed with moving cigarette carton sales to an area which has its own entrance and is off-limits to minors. "Yes, we have



O'Rorke Outside Newly Remodeled Store

a smoke shop," O'Rorke said. "However, it is not what we want to emphasize about our retailing venture."

It's now possible for a customer to visit the Potawatomi Tribal Store and never see the smoke shop. "A mother can bring her children in and never be exposed to tobacco products," O'Rorke explained.

Explaining the gasoline tank replacement, O'Rorke said, "We decided to place the tanks above ground for a couple of reasons. One, they're easier to maintain, easier to control. We did build a beautiful building

around the tanks. As a customer, you can't see the tanks at all."

With the remodeling complete, tribal leaders and O'Rorke are looking for other ways to create customer excitement about the Potawatomi Tribal Store. "We're always adding something," O'Rorke said. "We've brought in nachos and you can now come in and make yourself pretzels, all kinds of goodies."

Concerning pricing, O'Rorke simply says, "No one that I know of can undersell us on the price of tobacco products." The store's gasoline prices are among the lowest in the area, too.

O'Rorke gets help a-plenty from a talented, experienced staff. Diana Dotson and Sharon Collin are the assistant managers. Dotson has 16 years of experience with the Potawatomi Nation; Collin is closing in on a decade.

"They really molded me into this position," O'Rorke said. "They are my right hand because I am out of the store a lot, because of other activities and other assignments for the Nation. I can leave and not worry about the store."

The remaining employee roster for the Potawatomi Tribal Store includes: Chad Kiker, Donna Chance, Becky Gregson, Amy Teafatiller, Derrick Byerly, Davina Graham, Heath Harjo, Nancy Moore, Farrah O'Rorke, Travis Skelley, Mary Tsotaddle, and John Weddle.

"These are the people who run the registers, mop the floors, keep the shelves and coolers stocked and fronted,"

O'Rorke pointed out. "But, the key is that they take care of every customer who walks in the door."

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation puts a premium on involvement in community activities of all types. There was no need to persuade O'Rorke to be an involved citizen.

"I'm extremely active in the Tecumseh Chamber of Commerce; I was last year's president," O'Rorke told the *HowNiKan*. "I'm a member of the Board of Education in Tecumseh." He has been active for several years in the Tecumseh Youth Program that helps 500 children involved in athletics. O'Rorke is also a Tecumseh Kiwanis Club member.

O'Rorke loves sports; he draws a lot of enjoyment from his participation in making the Sunbelt Baseball Classic run smoothly each June. The Sunbelt brings top high school baseball players into the Shawnee-Tecumseh-Seminole area for a tournament. They come from Oklahoma, Texas, Florida, Ohio, Maryland, Arizona, Georgia, and California.

The players stay in the homes of volunteer hosts during the tournament. "This summer I was watching a Montreal Expos major league baseball game when I saw one of the players who had stayed in my home in the first year of my association with the Sunbelt Classic."

A few weeks ago, O'Rorke received a surprise package containing Florida State University T-shirts, hats, and other paraphernalia. A Seminoles player who stayed in O'Rorke's home during both the 1996 and 1997 Sunbelt tournaments had sent it.

According to O'Rorke, it is not at all unusual for long-term friendships to develop between the players and the families who host them during their stay in Pottawatomie County.

O'Rorke has been married for twenty years. His wife Pam is a real estate broker in Tecumseh. The O'Rorkes' 19-year-old son Brandon is married. His wife's name is Crystal; she is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Terry and Pam's son Ryan is a Tecumseh High School senior. Their youngest son Aaron is 15.



O'Rorke And Employee Nancy Moore Discuss Changes At Store

Tribal funds safeguarded in CPN bank facilities

By Michael Dodson

In 1995, a report that the Bureau of Indian Affairs could not account for approximately \$2.2 billion in individual and tribal Native American trust fund money had Indian Country abuzz. Based on work of the late U.S. Rep. Mike Synar (Dem-Muskogee, OK), Congress reacted by establishing the Office of Trust Funds Management.

That office is within the U.S. Interior Department, with Special Trustee Paul Hohman answering to the President of the United States. Its goal is to return order to management of individual and tribal trust funds.

With very little fanfare, an important section of the Office of Trust Funds Management is operating from the second floor of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation-owned First National Bank and Trust Company in north Shawnee.

This Division of Field Operations has responsibilities across the entire United States. It is overseen by Gary L. Rogers, chief of the Division of Field Operations of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians.

Rogers, a Caddo tribal member and a native of Anadarko and Watonga, Oklahoma, was a career BIA employee until he accepted his current assignment. "I worked in the BIA Anadarko Area Office for 14 years then transferred to Washington, D.C. for three years. I became the Bureau's Budget Officer, working with Congress and other bureaus within the Department of the Interior," Rogers told the *HowNiKan*.

He transferred from D.C. to the BIA's Albuquerque, New Mexico office for a



Gary Rogers At Work

one-and-one-half-year stint. Nine years as the accounting officer at the Muskogee Area Office followed that and preceded Rogers' taking his current position.

"The Division of Field Operations in Shawnee is responsible for Individual Indian Money accounts. We have approximately 330,000 accounts in our system," Rogers said. "We are trying to clean those up so we have a manageable number."

"These records are being imaged (scanned onto computers) and will no longer be maintained at the BIA area or agency level. **They will be maintained on the computer system, so that anyone at an area or agency office can call in and pull up any record.**"

"Each account has a record on paper, a jacket file," Rogers said. "In that jacket file could be disbursement documents, powers-of-attorney forms, court orders, guardianship papers, death records, birth certificates, and other records."

The Oklahoma City-based firm DataCom is computerizing about one-thousand of these records each workday. "They are about halfway through the task now," Rogers said.

According to Rogers, this records clean-up is the beginning but just a small part of his office's service to Native American accountholders. "What we have happening, in addition to records clean-up, is switch to a centralized accounting system. This will pull tribal and individual accounts into one accounting system."

Rogers' office has been operating with five employees. It has expanded recently with the addition of a dozen workers, who are transferring in from other sites.

Rogers says that there is no reason for Individual Indian Money accountholders to visit his office. "However, if they want to know what their account balance is, or get other information about the account, they can place a phone call to us and we can call up their account here."

Accountholders who know their account number can dial 1-888-OST-OTFM (a toll-free number) and enter their first three digits of the account number to reach assistance in a BIA Agency Office.

"Under these reforms, which created the Office of Trust Funds Management, we are changing our focus in the field to customer service," Rogers said. "We are getting away from doing the accounting

and posting."

Rogers will oversee an outreach effort that will have people in his office speaking to members of civic organizations, visiting with high schoolers to advise them what they can do with their IIM funds in the future, attending tribal members, and conferring with accountholders in their homes.

"We will be available to them to visit when they need us to visit," Rogers promised, "be it Saturday, Sunday, nights, whatever."

"What I hope individual Indians and tribal leaders understand is that this is their office. That's what we're here for. When they walk in, we stop, we help. I hope they use our services. The more they use those services, the better we feel we are reaching our goals," Rogers said.

Rogers said that the Office of Trust Funds Management chose Shawnee for the Field Operations Division Office to be closer and more accessible to the people the office serves. He said that people who work in his office and his superiors at the national level are very pleased to have the Field Operations office housed in First National Bank.

"This is Class A-One space, according to the Government Services Administration. That is the best available anywhere in the United States," Rogers said.

Rogers has also called on the Citizen Potawatomi Networking Department for assistance in setting up computers in a training lab. "We have 168 people nationwide who are supervised by this office in Shawnee. We provide training for them in our spacious training room here."

Tribal Supreme Court justice honored by state bar association

The Oklahoma Bar Association honored Almon E. Henson, Citizen Potawatomi Nation Supreme Court Justice and an attorney in Shawnee, at its 94th annual meeting in Tulsa in mid-November. Justice Henson received the OBA's Award for ethics.

At that meeting, retired district judge Donald E. Powers, a former Chandler, Oklahoma resident, received the OBA's Judicial Excellence Award.

In his nomination for the bar association Award for Ethics, Henson was described as "a role model for many, always being the utmost gentleman in the

courtroom and treating adversaries with courtesy and respect."

The nomination terms Henson "a personal combination of morality, character, and values within the practice of law."

Early in Justice Henson's career, he was principal of a two-teacher school in rural Garvin County. When World War Two began, he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps. He served in the European Theater of Operations until his discharge in January 1946.

Following his discharge, Henson entered law school at the University of Oklahoma. Henson and Judge Powers graduated from the OU Law

School together in 1948.

Henson has been practicing law in Shawnee since his graduation from law school. Shawnee residents honored Henson in a special ceremony for completing 50 years of law practice.

Henson is founder of the law firm Henson, Henson, Henson, Marshall, and Milburn in Shawnee.

During his term as County Attorney for Pottawatomie County, in the early 1950's, Henson was elected president of the Oklahoma Association of County Attorneys. He is a former president of the Pottawatomie County Bar Association and has been a member of the American bar Association



Almon Henson

Supreme Court, Justice Henson is a member of the Iowa Tribal Court. He has been general counsel for Oklahoma Baptist University for 35 years and general counsel for Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative for 30 years.

Henson has also been active in community affairs. He has served as president of the Shawnee Kiwanis Club, on the local Campfire Council, and as a member of the local American Red Cross chapter board of directors.

Henson was secretary of the Pottawatomie County Election Board from 1972-1977.

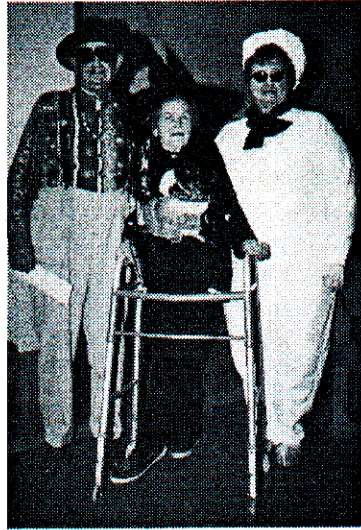
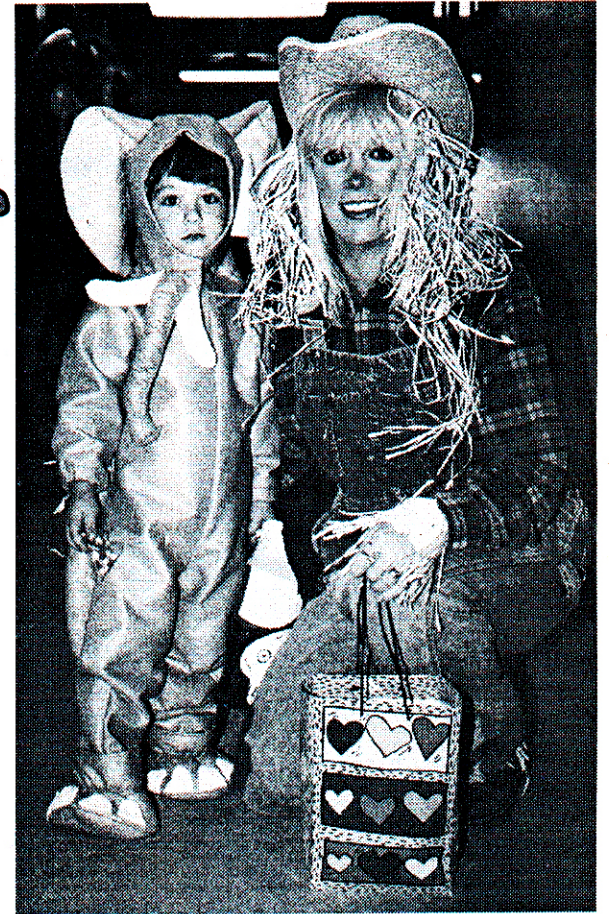
for 40 years.

In addition to serving on the Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Halloween



October 31st at CPN Tribal offices was more fun than a barrel full of ghouls and goblins. Strangely attired beings of all ages - some too young to Trick or Treat under their own power - wandered the halls. And, a great time was had by one and all!!!



Tribal members in Pottawatomie County offered mortgage help

Many Citizen Potawatomi tribal members who are ready to own a home will be eligible for federal financial assistance. The Pottawatomie County Home Finance authority is offering a **Mortgage Credit Certificate Program**.

The aim is to make it easier for middle- and lower-income families to buy a home. The Mortgage Credit Certificate is a federal income tax credit that offers a dollar-for-dollar reduction in the federal income tax the homebuyer owes each year.

Homebuyers who meet certain income and home-cost guidelines can qualify for a tax credit of 50% of the interest they pay on the first \$40,000 of

principal of the home loans.

Homes anywhere in Pottawatomie County are eligible for purchase by homeowners who participate in the Mortgage Credit Certificate Program. **The prospective homeowner can either build a new home or buy an existing home; there is no requirement that participants be first-time homebuyers.**

One- or two-person families can have annual income of up to \$49,560. Families of three-or-more can earn as much as \$57,820. In certain instances, homebuyers' income can exceed these guidelines.

For an existing home, the top allowable purchase price is \$109,294. The limit is \$128,322

for a new home.

MCC Program participants are required to occupy the home they purchase within 60 days after financing is provided. Their mortgage loan must be a new mortgage; the tax credit is not available to homeowners who are re-financing.

There are two fees for MCC Program participation: (1) a one-time program participation fee of \$1,000 and (2) an annual fee of \$150 to cover the cost of continuing administration of the program. The annual fee is payable monthly.

Prospective homebuyers in Pottawatomie County can apply for a Mortgage Credit Certificate as they apply for a

home loan. Applications are available from lending institutions, real estate agents and brokers, and MCC Administrative Corporation, 118 East Main Street, Norman, OK 73070. The MCC Administrative Corporation telephone number is 405-364-6565.

Applicants must submit income tax returns for the past three years, a copy of the real estate purchase contract, and a completed loan application. The Mortgage Credit Certificate application must be **submitted and approved before the home loan closing.**

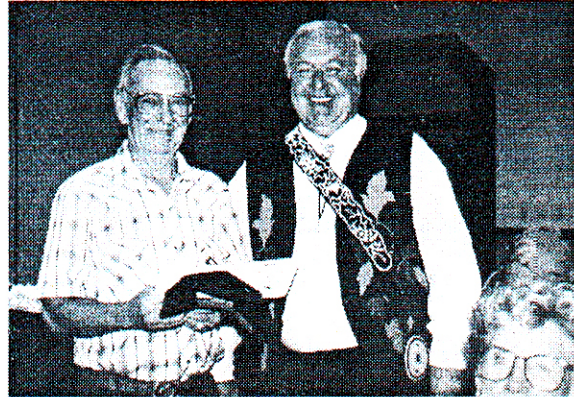
The tax credit is available for each year the homeowner lives in the home and pays mortgage

interest. If the homeowner sells his home within **nine years**, earns a profit, and has a sizable salary increase in the year he sells the home, he might have to repay some of the tax credit.

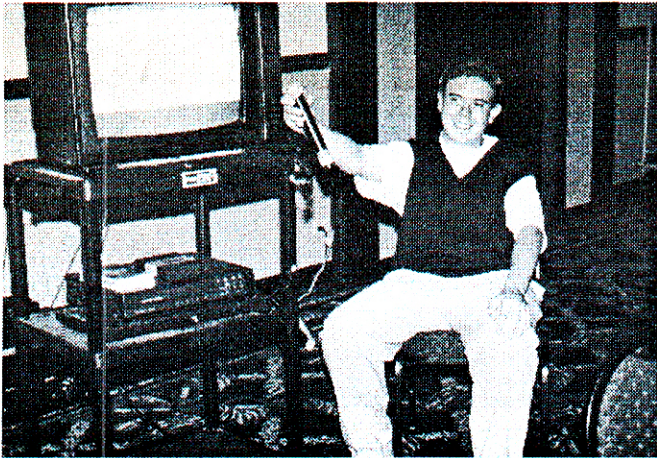
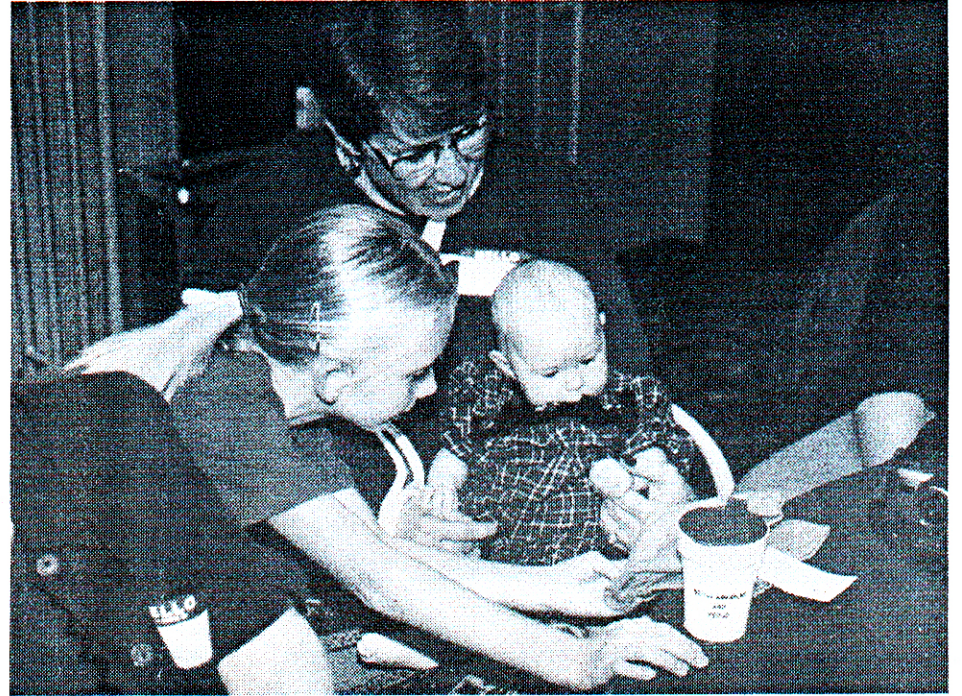
In instances in which a Mortgage Credit Certificate Program participant suffers an extended loss of income, as result of unemployment or any other reason, the tax credit can be carried forward for as many as three years.

The Mortgage Credit Certificates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. They are available until December 31, 2000 - or, until the maximum amount of certificates available has been issued.

Denver Register



Left: Shelby Maupin was honored for her trip from Borger, Texas to the Denver meeting. Above: Sam McCollum was the wisest Potawatomi present. Right: Ebanee Rose LaShea Moyers, the youngest Potawatomi present, is looked after by her great-grandmother, June Blooding, and Blooding's granddaughter, Shalyn Laird.



John Gibson lent a hand, to ensure that the audio from a Potawatomi history videotape could be heard.

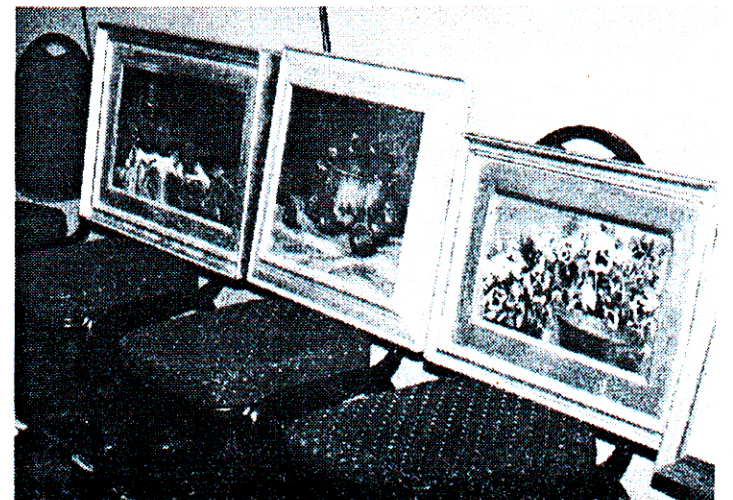


Above: Business Committee Member Gene Bruno and Deputy Administrator Bob Trousdale got the traveling Potawatomi gift shop packed for the flight home. Right: Vice Chairman Linda Capps briefed members on tribal business.

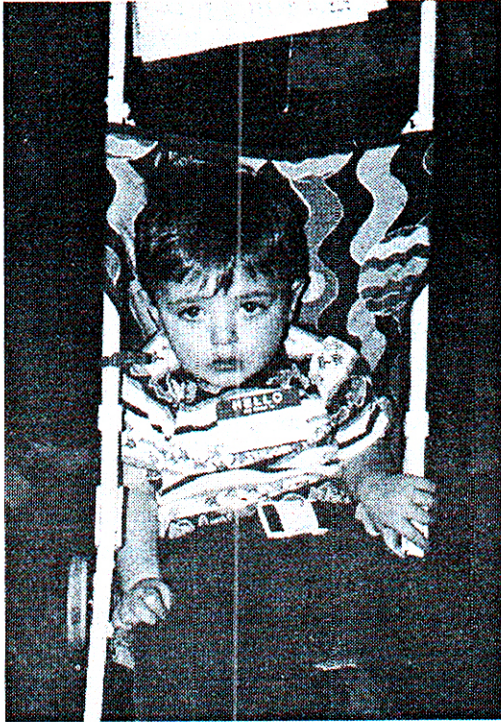


Left: Lou Haskew (left), Doris Cochran (center), and Penny Bishop placed first through third in the Regional Art Contest.

Right: Chairs served as makeshift easels for Lou Haskew's art contest entries. The painting on the right earned Lou first place.



Final Council



Well, what's a young Potawatomi to do when he's seat-belted in with no place to go? Aaron McEathron hopes someone has an answer.

Below, Lou and John Haskew examine information on Potawatomi ancestors. At right, son Denny Haskew, an Internationally acclaimed Potawatomi sculptor, discusses his recent work.



*Photos By
Michael Dodson*

Left: Four generations of Potawatomi women: June Blooding is second from the right. Areta Laird (left) is her daughter. Laird holds Ms. Blooding's great-granddaughter, Ebanee Rose LaShea Moyers. Shelby Maupin is Blooding's granddaughter, as is young Shalyn Laird. Sylvia Weeks, Ms. Blooding's daughter, is at the right.

Above Right: Susan Campbell and Father Tony Short discuss genealogical issues.

Below Right: Vickie Canfield, at right, Tribal Government Administrative Assistant, joined John Capra and Linda Whitehead in judging the art contest.





Regional Office Directory

COLORADO

Penny Bishop

90 Meade Lane
Englewood, CO 80110
Local (303) 761-7021
FAX (303) 761-1660
Toll-Free (800) 531-1140

SOUTH TEXAS

Lu Ellis

26231 Huffsmith-Conroe Rd.
Magnolia, TX 77355
Local (281) 356-7957
Toll-Free (800) 272-7957

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jennifer J. Porter

5033 Vannoy Ave.
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Local (510) 886-4195
Toll-Free (800) 874-8585

OREGON/IDAHO

Roscoe "Rocky" Baptiste

Box 346, 525 Ivy Ave.
Gervais, OR 97026
Local (503) 792-3744
FAX (503) 792-3744
Toll-Free (800) 522-3744

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Jeremy Bertrand Finch

250 Wigmore Drive
Pasadena, CA 91105
Local (626) 403-0930
FAX (800) 432-2008

NORTH TEXAS

Marjorie Hobdy

3132 Kathy Lane
Irving, TX 75060
Local (972) 790-3075
Toll-Free (800) 742-3075

SOUTHWEST

Philonise Williams

20415 N. 29th St.
Phoenix, AZ 85024
Local (602) 569-3073
FAX (602) 569-6935
Toll-Free (800) 452-8966

MIDWEST

Maryann Bell

12516 Askew Dr.
Grandview, MO 64030
Local (816) 761-2333
Toll-Free (800) 325-6639

REGIONAL REPORTS

Oregon/Washington/Idaho

Hah!

From Oregon, we are well and again waiting to hear from you.

I recently received a question about our fishing rights here in the Northwest. No, we do not have any fishing or hunting rights other than those that we have as Oregon or Washington residents. Because we are not a Northwest Indian tribe, we cannot participate in the fishing or hunting rights the Indians that are native to this region have.

I went to the fish hatchery when I heard that they were giving Indians the fish that had been caught to milk their eggs. When they said local Indians, they did not mean me. So, I have to go catch my own, the hard way. Which, by the way, is coming up soon.

We are still hearing a lot about sovereignty. Nearly every day, you read about it in some way or another. Some of us don't really know what this is all about. I thought I might give you a little definition that I found in a book.

This book said: "A fundamental aspect of American Indian tribes is the recognition of their sovereignty. The federal government recognizes the political status of Indian tribes as

governments. States within whose boundaries Indian reservations are located also recognize this sovereignty, but are more reluctant to deal with tribal leadership on a government-to-government relationship.

"The government-to-government relationship between Indian tribal governments and the United States government has existed since the formation of the U.S. It has been confirmed by every since Richard Nixon.

The relationship foundation is built upon the fact that all U.S. government executive agencies deal with Indian tribes as governments, not special interest groups, individuals, or other entities. Just as the U.S. deals with states as governments, it deals with Indian tribes as governments."

American Indians are citizens of original U.S. indigenous tribes or their descendants. Therefore, they have a political relationship with the U.S. through their tribes. Indians are not considered a racial or ethnic minority. Because of their unique political status, Indians are citizens of three sovereign entities: their tribe, the United States, and the state in which they reside.

The U.S. Constitution recognizes Indian tribes as distinct governments. It authorizes Congress to regulate commerce with "foreign nations, among the several states, and with Indian tribes." In addition, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that Congress, as the legislative body of the nation, has an intrinsic power to deal with Indian nations that reside within the U.S. borders.

Every day, I read more about how they are trying to pass legislation that will take away our sovereignty. I urge all of you to keep yourselves informed about what is going on in our nation's capitol and in your state legislative bodies, so you can call your representatives to let them know your needs.

Remember, I am still here in the office. Please, leave a message on our 800-522-3744 number; I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Keep practicing our language that we may retain some words. We must look to our brothers to the North for a lot of our lost language and culture. We appreciate them so much.

Until next month, Bama mine (See you later)

— Rocky Baptiste

South Texas

Ahaw Boshho mine' nde nwe ma gnek, (Now then hello again my relatives), Mno bmades odo pi? (How are you feeling at this time?)

South Texas is in its finest season, these few days of "Fall" that happen when the first "Cool Front" comes through. Seventies in the daytime, high fifties or low sixties at night. Aki (Mother Earth) is especially beautiful today. But summer is on its way back!

We went to the Native American Music Festival last Friday night. There we met a young Potawatomi man whose family is from the Shawnee area, his name is Matthew. Matthew plays Drums for Keith Secola and the "Wild Band of Indians." We had a good visit with Matthew, and, because of that, he is sending a copy of the Potawatomi Alphabet book to his brother in Madagascar!

Matthew told me he has a six-year-old niece there, and he felt she would benefit from the book. So another twenty dollars went into the Fund for the Potawatomi Language Program. That is good.

I spoke in Corpus Christi in September at the Wordcraft Conference, and had the pleasure of seeing our sister/relative Dorothy Bryan and her daughter Mary there. What a joy to visit with them!

I have since heard from Dorothy, and learned that she has lost her precious Mother just days after our visit. We pray for her and her family, and all of you who have suffered recent loss or illness. I know there are some I have not heard from who likewise suffer.

I have not been hearing much from the rest of you out there, so I guess you

are mostly okay, eh? Oh, Ms. Naomi Ward, please call me again; I don't seem to have the right phone number for you, and I do wish to talk to you.

Let me hear from you ASAP if you want to study language with the fluent speaker from up North. I have to arrange to get him here!

Keep well,
Bama pi she,

— Lu Ellis

Change of Address Form

This is my current mailing address!

Name: _____

(Include Maiden) (Please Print)

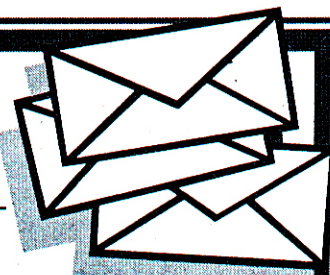
Address: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Birthdate: _____

Roll No: _____

Mail To: Mary Farrell, Tribal Rolls
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
1901 Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801



REGIONAL REPORTS

Northern California

Bosho, niconi,

Fall is here with its changeable weather, its warm and cool days. My phone has been fairly quiet lately, so I just want to remind you to be sure to call with address changes, forms for enrollment, etc. We have our Regional Meeting date. It will be March 6th, so put it on your calendar now. I am looking for a site in the Stockton area, so if you have any ideas, please let me know as soon as possible. Our site in Livermore has been very convenient and met our needs quite well, but I want to be able to alternate the locations so that people in different areas have an opportunity to come.

We recently camped in the valley floor of Yosemite. While much has changed due to the flooding, it is still a beautiful place. With the conservation efforts, campfires are restricted to 5-10 p.m. only. I can tell you that we were quite chilly in the morning, so keep that in mind if you plan a trip there. The Miwok village set up behind the museum is well done. Their sweat lodge and their long house still serve the Miwoks at special times of the year.

The pow wow at the Cal State University, Hayward, and put on by All Nations Together, the student club I've worked with, went well. We had many dancers, six drums, and things went pretty smoothly, considering that rain threatened off and on during the morning hours. The Aztec dancers were strong and beautiful in the arena during the dinner break.

We were also honored in having Lt. J. G. Northstar carry the eagle staff in Grand Entry. He was a prisoner of war for four years and three days during the Vietnam War and is a recipient of four purple hearts, three bronze stars, and the St. George Medal and the Navy Cross. He mentioned to a reporter covering the pow wow that tears come to his eyes when he sees our children carrying out the dances of their ancestors. Aho.

You may not read this in time, but I hope you will get out and vote on all the important issues we have before us in California. You can't complain if you don't, eh?

Congratulations to Kelli and Shane Gilbert in the birth of their little neshnabe girl, Alexandria. We are blessed.

Blessings and good health to you all,

— Jennifer J. Porter

North Texas

It's State Fair time and the weather is Fall-like. The weather is absolutely beautiful, in the 70s and low 80s for the last few days. We really deserve it after all the 100 plus days we have endured. April to October is long enough for summer. Hope all of our friends in Shawnee have survived the severe weather they have been having.

I read in the paper that the northern part of Shawnee did have (severe storm) damage. But, in checking with headquarters, they appeared to have escaped. I have never heard Shawnee mentioned so much in the news as I have in the past month, weather and elections. Sounds like an interesting place to live, especially the billboards.

Our Regional Meeting is scheduled for November 7. Notice of our meeting was rather short this year, which cannot be helped when it's one of the first meetings scheduled. Dennette Brand in the Public Information office prepared the very nice invitation and took care of the mailing.

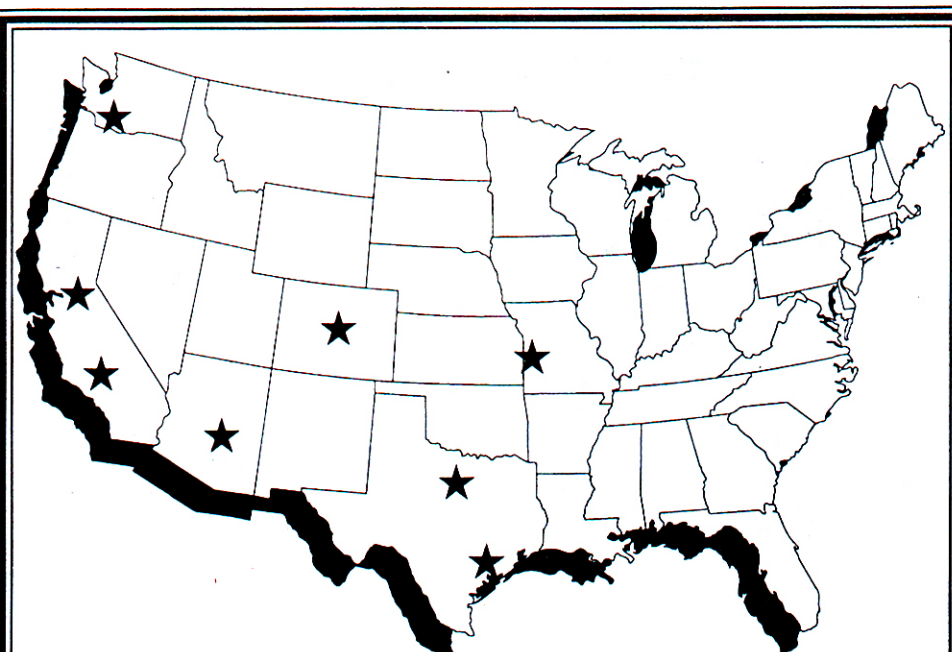
These meetings are to keep us informed and require a lot of time away from home for our Business Committee. Sure hope you manage to be there.

The American Indian Heritage Celebration was October 31, 1998 in Arlington, Texas' Legacy Park. Our Chairman, John "Rocky" Barrett, was there to represent our tribe. Sponsors were the American Indian Center, the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Texas, the Urban Center of Texas, the Dallas Independent School District Indian Education Program, the American Indian Community Council of Tarrant County, American Airlines, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

There are events scheduled all through the month of November in celebration of Native American History month. On November 19, there will be an American Indian Presentation at Thanksgiving Square in Downtown Dallas. For additional information, contact Peggy Larney 214-943-9616.

I always enjoy speaking with you when you call. If you need forms, I'll be glad to send them. I now have e-mail and my address is Region07@Potawatomi.org. Drop me a line!

— Marj Hobdy



1998-99 Regional Council Schedule

Denver	Oct. 1, 1998
Dallas	Nov. 7, 1998
Southern California	Jan. 16, 1999
Phoenix	Feb. 6, 1999
Northern California	March 6, 1999
Houston	March 20, 1999
Seattle/Portland	April 24, 1999
Kansas City	May 15, 1999

St. Gregory's to receive large gift

St. Gregory's University, a valued Citizen Potawatomi Nation partner in education and technology efforts, will receive \$100,000 from the Norman, Oklahoma-based Sarkeys Foundation. To be paid over three years, the pledge will help SGU construct a campus center and plaza, finish renovation of a residence hall, and increase parking.

Known as the Campus Life Project, this is the highest priority in SGU's \$40 million "Era of Transformation" comprehensive campaign.

"We are extremely grateful to the Sarkeys Foundation for its confidence in St. Gregory's future," said Frank Pfaff, President. "The foundation has a long and distinguished history of furthering Oklahoma higher education. We are proud to have been selected as worthy of such significant support."

"Until now, our campus has not featured a full-service student union," Dr. Pfaff said. "In fact, we believe that St. Gregory's is the only university in Oklahoma without a student union, or a student center."

SGU is planning construction of three new buildings and the renovation of four others, to accommodate the university's rapidly expanding student population. For the past four years, SGU has been named Oklahoma's fastest growing college or university.

Dr. Pfaff said that the needs that this rapid growth has created were discussed during a series of focus groups and strat-

egy sessions. These sessions involved students, their parents, faculty members, alumni, staff, administrators, area residents, members of the St. Gregory's Abbey monastic community, and members of the SGU Board of Directors.

This process arrived at the overwhelming consensus opinion that SGU should enhance campus life through construction of a student center.

"One of St. Gregory's greatest strengths is that we put students first," Dr. Pfaff said. "Our partnership with the Sarkeys Foundation will have a dramatic impact on St. Gregory's ability to serve our students' and the community's needs."

The SGU/Sarkeys collaboration has a significant history. In 1988, the foundation played a key role in helping SGU complete the Sarkeys Performing Arts Theater, a 250-seat facility that is used for special presentations and performances by the university's Stage Greg's theater company. It is also used extensively by groups from Shawnee and the surrounding community.

The new student union will be known as the Creative Living Center. It is an expansion of space already in use. It will serve virtually every aspect of students' lives, including study, recreation, work, and food service.

For more information on the Campus Life Project or other capital improvements at St. Gregory's University, call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 888-252-8686 (toll-free) or 405-878-5419.



Loretta Barrett Oden puts new twist on traditional Native American dishes

From the November 1998 issue of Delicious! Magazine

Native American Harvest Feast

By Carol O'Sullivan

Recipes by Loretta Barrett Oden

Celebrate autumn's bounty with down-to-earth dishes culled from native traditions.

The great adventure of Loretta Barrett Oden's life began in 1990. Her children grown, she asked herself the question: "Is this all there is?" Refusing to settle for the answer, "Yes," Oden, executive chef and owner of the Corn Dance Café in Santa Fe, N.M., said adiós to life as an Oklahoma wife and rancher, climbed into her truck, and hit the open road.

Oden headed for the Northwest coast to visit a cousin who was married to a Tlingit Indian. While there, she was inspired by the differences between Northwest Indian cuisine and the fare of her own Potawatomi tribe in Oklahoma.

An idea began to simmer: What if she visited Indian reservations all over the country and learned to prepare indigenous foods, then opened a restaurant that served those foods?

"What if" turned into cooking her way through the Ute, Crow, Creek, Cherokee, Sioux, and Ojibwa reservations. Three years later, she opened the Corn Dance Café. Later, Oden moved the café to the Hotel Santa Fe, the only Native American-owned hotel in town.

The café's menu includes such native fare as salmon, venison, quail, rabbit, bison, potatoes, corn, and squash, with ingredients from the northwest coast of North America to the tip of South America. "I combine quinoa, the ancient grain of the Incas, with the wild rice of the Ojibwas of the Great Lakes and womp up a new world cuisine, Indian-style," Oden says.

Oden's quest to nourish the masses involves feeding their minds as well as their bodies. "Food is my way of educating people about Indian culture," she explains. When she serves a dish indigenous to a particular tribe, she tells a story about the tribe. For example, grilled salmon fillets with rosehips sauce and smoked oyster potato cakes, a meal from the peoples native to the northwest coast, might be accompanied by a tale about whale hunting in Tlingit long boats.

Though she strives to serve only native fare, Oden does incorporate some non-native foods, such as goat cheese and wheat flour, into her recipes. Generally, though, she prefers red, blue, and yellow Indian corn over white hybrid corn, and purple and gold South American potatoes over white potatoes.

Besides being tasty and aesthetically pleasing, these plants are made for the Earth, Oden says, because they require less water and fertilizer than hybrid plants.

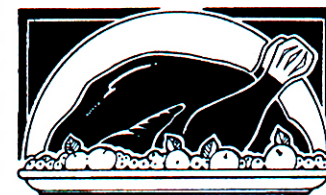
The way food is grown is as important as the way it looks and tastes, and Oden expresses concern about the harm modern farming methods are doing to the Earth. "We've gone beyond the notion of sustainable farming. We now have to heal the damage we've done." Oden believes we can partially accomplish this healing through Native American restorative farming, which employs methods such as planting in mounds to save water, turning under leaves and stalks, using natural fertilizers, avoiding pesticides, and planting companion crops that support each other.

Recently, Oden was one of four chefs invited to participate in the "Great Chefs" cooking class series at the Robert Mondavi Winery. Last July she was a guest chef at the "Ninth Annual Cuisines of the Sun" in Hawaii, and she just completed a segment of the PBS series "Savor the Southwest," to be aired in March 1999.

Not bad for a woman who eight years ago lamented, "I have to find a way to support myself, and the only thing I can do is cook."

Pan-Roasted Medallions of Turkey Breast With Cranberry-Pinon Sauce Serves 8-12

Turkeys were among the few animals domesticated by early Native Americans. These birds provided meat and acted as sentinels, using their noisy gobbles to warn of approaching danger. In this recipe, cranberries, indigenous to the Northwestern tribes, are blended with the piñon nuts of the Southwest to create a tart, nutty sauce.



PREP TIME: 4 HOURS TO MAKE THE TURKEY STOCK;
COOKING TIME: 45 MINUTES

- One 10-to-12 pound turkey breast (Have your butcher cut the meat from the bone and skin and slice it into 2-to-3 ounce medallions. Save the bones and trimmings for the sauce.)
- 2 yellow onions, skin on, cut into eighths
- 1 carrot, peeled and cut into 1-inch lengths
- 3 ribs of celery, washed and cut into 1-inch lengths
- 5 black peppercorns
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 sprigs of fresh thyme or 1/4 teaspoon dried thyme
- 2 cups dried cranberries
- 2 cups apple cider
- 1 cup dried currants
- 1 cup unbleached white flour
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1/2 cup toasted pinon nuts (or substitute pine nuts)

1. Preheat oven to 350-degrees F. Place bones and trimmings from turkey in a heavy roasting pan and roast until they turn mahogany in color, about 1 hour. Transfer them to a heavy stock pot and cover with water. Add onions, carrot, celery, peppercorns, bay leaves and thyme; bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Skim the foam from the surface and turn down heat to a slow simmer. Cook for 3 hours. Strain stock through a fine-mesh strainer or cheese cloth, and chill overnight. In the morning, remove all the congealed fat from the surface of the stock. Reserve two cups of the stock for the Cornbread-Sage Dressing.

2. Return the de-fatted turkey stock to the stove and add the cranberries, apple cider and currants. Cook over medium heat until reduced in volume by half, about 4 cups. Season to taste with a pinch of salt.

3. While the sauce reduces, prepare the turkey medallions. In a pie plate, combine the flour with 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon black pepper. Dredge the turkey medallions in the seasoned flour and sauté in a small amount of oil over medium-high heat until golden on both sides.

4. Remove the cooked turkey from the pan and place the turkey on a paper towel-lined heated plate. Drain the oil from the pan, add the cranberry sauce and bring to a boil. Stir in the pinon nuts. Simmer until ready to serve.

5. To serve, place 1/2 cup of the Cornbread-Sage Dressing on a dinner plate. Top with 2 or 3 turkey medallions and ladle some of the sauce over the turkey.

Potawatomi chef cooks up holiday feast

Butternut Squash Soup With Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

Serves 8

Squash is a staple for many Native American tribes. Young squash are baked or boiled, blossoms are battered and fried, and leaves are wrapped around other foods for cooking. Pumpkin seeds are often formed into balls with dried fruits, nuts and maple syrup in what's known as pemmican, the "trail mix of many tribes."

PREP TIME: 20 MINUTES; COOKING TIME: 20 MINUTES

- 2 large butternut squash, skin and seeds removed, cut into 2-inch pieces
- Sea salt to taste
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1/2 cup pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup chopped chives or parsley

1. Place squash in a heavy saucepan and cover with water. Cook until tender, about 20 minutes; drain and reserve liquid.

2. Purée squash, in batches, in a food processor or blender until smooth. (Be careful — the squash is hot!) Add some reserved liquid to the processor if the squash becomes too thick to purée.

3. Return puréed squash to saucepan in which it was cooked and slowly reheat. If soup is too thick, stir in some of reserved cooking liquid. Season to taste with a pinch of salt, and sweeten with honey if necessary (sometimes the squash is not as sweet as it should be).

4. Place pumpkin seeds on a baking sheet in a 350-degree oven and roast about 10 minutes until fragrant.

5. Ladle soup into warm bowls and garnish with pumpkin seeds and chives.

Cornbread-Sage Dressing Serves 8

Before Europeans introduced wheat to the New World, most tribes used cornmeal as a major bread-making ingredient. This recipe calls for the addition of flour and leavenings to the cornmeal, which results in a lighter version of this Native American bread.

PREP TIME: 20 MINUTES; COOKING TIME: 15 TO 20 MINUTES,
20 MINUTES FOR FINISHED DRESSING

For the cornbread:

- 1 cup organic, stone-ground cornmeal
- 1 cup unbleached white flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 egg
- 1 cup skim milk
- 1 cup fire-roasted corn kernels
- 2 tablespoons canola oil

For the dressing:

- 3 tablespoons canola oil
- 4 ribs of celery, diced
- 1 large yellow onion, diced
- 4 tablespoons poultry seasoning
- 4 tablespoons minced fresh sage

1. Preheat oven to 325-degrees F. Combine the cornmeal, flour, baking powder, and salt in a large mixing bowl. In a separate bowl, mix together egg, milk, corn, and canola oil. Add the wet ingredients to the dry ingredients, and mix until most of the lumps are removed.

2. Pour batter into a 2-inch-deep baking pan and bake about 25 minutes or until the interior of the cornbread reaches 200-degrees F. Remove cornbread from the oven and let cool. Scrape the cooled cornbread from the pan and crumble it into a large bowl.

3. Heat the canola oil in a medium-size saucepan over medium heat. Sauté the celery and onion with the poultry seasoning and sage until the vegetables become translucent.

4. Add vegetables to the crumbled cornbread and mix well. Add reserved turkey stock if the mixture is too dry. Transfer dressing to a baking dish and bake 20 to 30 minutes until heated through.

Three Sisters Succotash

Serves 8



Corn, beans, and squash are the principal foods of many Native American tribes. They're called the sisters because they support one another. The corn grows tall, allowing the bean vine to twine around her stalk. The bean fixes the nitrogen in the soil, and the squash has big leaves that hold in moisture.

PREP TIME: 20 MINUTES;
COOKING TIME: 10 MINUTES

- 1 tablespoon canola oil
- 2 unpeeled zucchini squash, julienned
- 2 unpeeled summer squash, julienned
- 1 cup fire-roasted corn kernels
- 1 cup chopped fresh tomatoes
- 1 cup cooked heirloom beans (Anasazi, Appaloosa, Black, Butterscotch Calypso, Tepary, Chestnut lima, or any variety of beans)
- 1 heaping tablespoon sage pesto
- Fresh sage leaves for garnish

1. Heat canola oil in a large, nonstick skillet. Add squash, corn, tomatoes, beans and 1 heaping tablespoon of sage pesto. Toss quickly and remove from heat; do not overcook. Place in large bowl, garnish with fresh sage leaves, serve immediately.

Potawatomi Pumpkin Bread Serves 8

"Pumpkin bread is a popular gift among the many Native American tribes in Oklahoma," says Oden. "My grandmother, mother, aunts, and I spent many holiday hours in the kitchen telling stories and harmonizing in the style of the Andrew Sisters as the spicy fragrance of our version of this bread filled the air."

PREP TIME: 20 MINUTES; COOKING TIME: 1 HOUR

- 11/2 cups organic, unbleached flour
- 11/2 cups mashed or puréed cooked pumpkin (canned may be used)
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup melted unsalted butter
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon spiceberry or allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup pecans or walnuts, chopped
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- Whipped cream (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 350-degrees F. Combine flour, pumpkin, honey, butter, eggs, baking powder, spices and salt in a large mixing bowl. Stir just until combined; don't overmix. Stir in nuts and cranberries.

2. Pour batter into a greased 6" x 9" bread pan. Bake approximately one hour or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove loaf from pan and let cool on a baking rack. Loaf can be tightly wrapped in plastic or foil and frozen or refrigerated. Top with dollop of whipped cream if desired.



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Supreme Court action ends long legal battle

Continued from page 1

In 1992, upon hearing that the Absentee Shawnee may have submitted an application to the BIA for the United States to take land into trust within the former Potawatomi Reservation, the Potawatomi asked the BIA if any such actions were pending. In a September 17 letter, the BIA refused to confirm or deny that any Absentee Shawnee trust applications were pending, announced that the Potawatomi and Absentee Shawnee "share a common former reservation area" citing as authority an 1872 Allotment Act, and that Potawatomi consent was not necessary before taking lands located within the Potawatomi Reservation boundaries into trust on behalf of the Absentee Shawnee.

On October 30, 1992, the Potawatomi filed suit to prevent the BIA from placing land within the Potawatomi Reservation into trust on behalf of the Absentee Shawnee without first obtaining Potawatomi written consent as required by federal law.

After a successful appeal to the Tenth Circuit, an unsuccessful administrative appeal to the Interior Board for Indian Appeals, and a belated intervention by the Absentee Shawnee, the District Court finally granted judgment for the Potawatomi.

On May 22, 1998, the District Court entered an order finding that "no evidence" has been offered "of any treaty or agreement with the A-S [Absentee Shawnee] Tribe, Act of Congress, Executive Order, purchase or any other act setting apart land within the boundaries of the Potawatomi Reservation for the use of the A-S Tribe."

The District Court entered a judgment declaring that the Potawatomi had a reservation in Indian Territory before it became the State of Oklahoma, that the reservation boundaries were those fixed by the survey of Orrin T. Morrill, and that the Absentee Shawnee did not have a reservation encompassing the land within the Potawatomi Reservation.

The Court also permanently enjoined the BIA from taking land located within the Potawatomi Reservation into trust for the Absentee Shawnee without first obtaining written consent from the Potawatomi as required by federal regulatory law.

Although the lawsuit and the subsequent injunction entered were against the BIA, the Absentee Shawnee intervened and prolonged the litigation by first appealing to the Tenth Circuit, then seeking a rehearing and finally petitioning the United States Supreme Court for review by certiorari. All failed.

On May 5, 1998, the Tenth Circuit affirmed the judgment of the District Court and subsequently denied the Absentee Shawnee petition for rehearing. On October 19, the United States Supreme Court entered an order denying the Absentee Shawnee petition for certiorari and ending this expensive and lengthy litigation.

To ensure that the federal bureaucracy honors the high court decision, the Potawatomi have been forced to file two additional lawsuits. One is pending in the District Court and the other is on appeal to the Tenth Circuit.

After 130 years, it is gratifying to finally have this issue put to rest in the courts. There is tragedy, however, in this righting of an old wrong: the refusal of the federal bureaucracy to follow the decision of the Court.

After the Collier decision was handed down in the Federal District Court, the losing lawyer from United States Attorney's office as much as said to our attorney: "You might have won in the Courts, but we will still prevail at an administrative level."

It wasn't just arrogance; she has made good on that threat. Now we are embroiled in litigation to force the government to honor the federal Court decision. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of the Interior, Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service and the Department of Agriculture are still resisting. The sad truth is: the federal government will not admit it was wrong. They will not admit that they violated the 1867 treaty and have continued to violate the territorial jurisdiction of the Citizen Potawatomi and deprive them of funding rightfully theirs in the conduct of tribal business.

All of our members have lost in this injustice. Each of the Citizen Potawatomi families have missed some opportunity — a new house, education funding, roads improvement, sanitation, wells, medical assistance, tribal government growth, cultural preservation, child care, police protection, and job training. We have never had the fair amount of funds for our members because the Absentee Shawnee have wrongfully claimed our resident population and territory for their funding.

Millions of dollars were lost to the Citizen Potawatomi, and it continues. Our fight is not over.



— John "Rocky" Barrett

ELDER OF THE MONTH

By Dennette Brand

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation Title VI program, whose purpose is to assist in meeting the nutritional and socialization needs of Native American Elders, has named Mary Nell Everett the Elder of the Month for October 1998.

Mary Everett is a Potawatomi Nation tribal member; she is a descendant of the Tescier family. Mary was born in Shawnee in 1923 and has resided here ever since.

Mary has two children, a daughter whom she lost several years ago to cancer and a son who works for the Tribe. Her son Bill works in the maintenance department.

In her spare time, Mary enjoys sewing and doing arts and crafts. She enjoys the fellowship, the opportunity to meet new people, the activities such as bowling and bingo, and the food that the Title VI Program offers.

When asked what she likes best, Ms. Everett replied, "The food — that way you do not have to cook."

Mary believes that the Title VI program is wonderful because so many of the elders live by themselves. The program gives them an opportunity to get out of their homes, to enjoy friends and fellowship.

Denise Lackey, Director of Title VI, said, "Mary is responsive when it comes to helping and doesn't mind pitching in. She is always ready to help the other elders. She participates in all of the activities and is fun to have around."

If you would like to know more about the elder programs, contact Denise Lackey at (405) 878-4833.



Vice chairman joins tribal staff

Continued from page 1

horticulture-related industries and carpentry.

For seven years before that, Capps was the Career Education Coordinator at Tecumseh, Oklahoma High School and Business Education Instructor at Dover, Oklahoma High School.

Capps' business experience includes real estate sales, oil and gas leasing, support work in the OG&E Purchasing Office. She jointly owned and operated C&C Carpet Cleaning from 1974 to 1981; she owned Natural Cut Barber Shop in Tecumseh from 1980 through 1982.

Capps earned a Master's Degree in Secondary Education at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. She earned her Bachelor's Degree, in Business, from The University of Science and Arts in Oklahoma at Chickasha.

Community service is close to Linda Capps' heart. She serves on the executive committee of the Southwest Center for Human Relations at the University of Oklahoma. Since 1995, she has helped the executive committee select participants for the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education.

In November 1997, Capps addressed the third annual Oregon Community College Diversity Network Conference on the topics of diversity in the workplace and schools and bias-free communication. The theme for the conference was "Diversity in Business, Healthy Communities, and Education."

In 1997, the U.S. Small Business Administration honored Capps as Oklahoma Minority Advocate of the Year for her work with small businesses. In 1994, she earned

the Award of Excellence from the Customized Business and Industry Service (CBITS).

CBITS is a division of the Oklahoma Vocational Association. It has a membership of more than 200 business and industry leaders from the Oklahoma Vocational-technical education system.

Criteria for the Award of Excellence include: involvement in professional organizations on the local and state levels, achievements within the honoree's vo-tech department, and demonstration of strong leadership.

Capps served as an officer of CBITS in 1993 and 1994.

With 25,000 members, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation is the tenth largest federally recognized Indian tribe. The Nation owns and operates First National Bank and Trust Co.; FireLake Entertainment Center, with a bowling alley, off-track horse race betting, Las Vegas Room, and Bingo facility; the Potawatomi Tribal Convenience Store; FireLake Golf Course; the Potawatomi Museum and Gift Shop; AM 1450 KGFF Radio; and Potawatomi Nation Industrial Services, a paint and sandblasting contractor.

A heartfelt thanks to all the employees and members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation for food, flowers, prayers and concern during the loss of our father, Raymond Melot.

The circle of love which you all formed around us eased our pain and shared our burden.

We shall never forget.

The Raymond Melot Family

LANGUAGE & CULTURE

LESSON FIVE

Vowels - A - ah E' - eh I - ee O - oh E - uh

Se'nyani mno ze'kwe'k - Northern women cook good.

Shate'ni kwe'k - Southern women

Mno ze' kwe'k - You ladies cook well.

Dak me'megok - I appreciate them.

Ndepseni - I'm full.

Pye'dme'n i - Pass the (you would look in the direction of an object or point).

Tie'smen - Pass the _____.

Tie'smen i - Pass that (i = That - an inanimate object, or substance)

Ndezhnekaz - I am _____ (Indian name, other).

Gdezhnekaz - You are called (_____).

Ne' gdezhnekaz - Are you called(_____) (ne' means question)

Zhenkazo - He/she is called a certain thing

Zhe'nkade' - It is called

Gdaw - You are a (Man/nene' - woman/Kwe' etc.)

Ndaw - I am

Gdaw -You're

Yaweg - Is

Ndaw men - We are

Gdaw men - You are

Yakwnoge' - he/ she is sick

Ne'nopmatisne' - Are you well?

Shate' - Hot inside

Se'nyamge't - Cold outside

Poni - snow

Noden - wind

Wik mowen - It is going to rain.

Gwankwet - Cloudy

Nijepi kaya bye'zhnen - What time did you get here?

We'chkse'nyak - Direction of the North

We'ch mokek - Direction of the East

We'chkzhatek - Direction of the South

We'chbkishmok - Direction of the West

Ndaw - I am

Gdaw - You are

Yawe - He is / she is

Yawen-It is (inanimate chair/dopwen)

Gdawm - You all are

Yawik - They are

Shate'mge't - hot outside

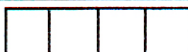
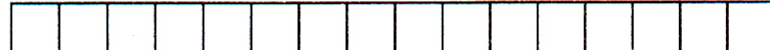
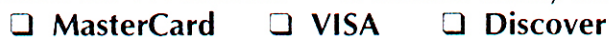
Se'nya - cold

Ponimge't - It's going to snow

Wi shon nek - blowing hard (wind)

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